

REMARKS

In the Office Action of October 3, 2007, claim 27 is pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-26 were cancelled in a previous amendment and remain cancelled.

With this Amendment, claim 27 is amended and remains at issue.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 102 Anticipation Rejection of Claims

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Arikawa*. (U.S. Patent No. 6,031,571). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In relevant part, independent claim 27 recites:

“unit pixels, each unit pixel having”

...and

“a reset element effective to reset said signal charge”

...and

“the reset gate of said depletion mode transistor is a transverse overflow barrier.”

This is clearly unlike *Arikawa*, which fails to disclose each pixel having a reset element with the reset element reset gate acting as a transverse overflow barrier which is effective to reset a signal charge. Instead, *Arikawa* discloses several pixels sending a combined signal to a single output area which includes a reset setting circuit. See *Arikawa* Col. 1, lines 23-54. Further, nowhere does *Arkiawa* disclose or even suggest each pixel having a reset element with the reset element reset gate acting as a transverse overflow barrier which is effective to reset a signal charge.

As Applicant’s specification discloses, because each pixel has a reset element with the reset gate of the depletion mode transistor acting as a transverse overflow barrier which resets the signal charge, each pixel’s noise component is eliminated at the pixel level before being sent to a signal processor thereby improving the image generated by the image sensor. U.S. Pat. Pub.

2004/00806044 Para. [0014]. Accordingly, the image sensor disclosed in *Arikawa* is incapable of producing the image sensor claimed.

Therefore, because *Arikawa* fails to disclose or even fairly suggest every feature of claim 27, the rejection is improper.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all claims are clearly allowable over the cited prior art, and respectfully request early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: /David R. Metzger/
David R. Metzger
Registration No. 32,919
SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP
P.O. Box 061080
Wacker Drive Station, Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-1080
(312) 876-8000

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